

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
(fraunh01.047)

5	Applicant: Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft	Paper No.:
	Application No: 10/500,722	Group Art Unit: 2628
	Filed: 7/6/04	Examiner: Said A. Broome
10	Title: <i>Using runs of cells to traverse a ray through a volume</i>	

Commissioner for Patents
15 P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Response to a first Office action under 37 C.F.R. 1.111

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Summary of the Prosecution

This application is the US National Phase of PCT/US03/00240. In a Written Opinion mailed 3 March 2004, in PCT/US03/00240, the IPEA examiner found that claims 1-3, 6, 10, and 11 were anticipated by Schröder, et al., "Data parallel volume rendering as line drawing", *1992 Workshop on Volume Visualization/10/92*, ACM, 1992 (henceforth "Schröder"). Applicant traversed the rejection in a Response to a Written Opinion filed April 6, 2004, but the IPEA examiner persisted in his rejection in the IPER which was mailed Jan. 26, 2005.

30 In a first Office action in the US national phase, mailed 3/28/06, Examiner rejected claims 1-18 under 35 U.S.C. 101 as addressed to unpatentable subject matter, claims 1, 2, 10, and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as anticipated by Schröder and rejected all of the other claims under 35 U.S.C. 103 as obvious over Schröder when combined with various other references. Applicant's attorney requested an interview, which Examiner graciously
35 granted. The interview took place at 11:00 on July 11. Applicant's attorney provided Examiner with a written *Argument* to assist Examiner in his preparation for the interview. This response is based on the *Argument*, which in turn is an expanded version of the argument made in the Response to the Written Opinion.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to address the rejection under 35 U.S.C. 101 and is traversing the rejections under 35 U.S.C. 102 and 103.

5 Please amend the claims as follows: